

## Let us Listen.

By Mrs. M. A. KIDDER.

To talk in quite a pleasant time.  
When themes are great and bright eyes gladden.  
In glad approval of our strain.  
Yet sometimes we would sit and listen.

In some low valley sweet with bloom.  
Where forest trees have rocked for ages  
Through birds, and bees, and running brooks.  
Loam wisdom from Nature's pages.

There shut our eyes and hear the hum  
Of summer life that never ceases;  
But, with the advent of the stars  
Over and on, and yet increases.

And when the winds of winter blow  
And come is summer's balm and glory.  
We faint would sit at some dear hearth.  
And listen to a touching story.

Some tale of human love and loss.  
A heart made glad, a broken fellowship.  
A couple joined in holy ties.  
Something in life to make us better.

Something to turn us from ourselves.  
And make us long to see others.  
To stem the tide of hate and wrong.  
And deal as brothers should with others.

There's more sweet in this our world.  
In century towns, and teeming city.  
Than in children's tales, and fairy tales.  
The joy of love, the tale of pity.

Alas, yes, 'tis sweet to sit and learn.  
Or bend the ready ear when wisdom  
To teach the flow from other hearts.  
To learn more and do less talking.

## Ramie.

For a number of years much attention has been paid to the extracting of the fibre from the ramie or rhea plant. While it is done by hand in China and India, where it is made into "grass cloth," the expense of this method of extraction is so great that the fibre does not come into general use. If the cost of production could be reduced within certain limits, it is generally conceded that the fibre would become one of the most valuable articles of commerce in the world.

The Indian department of the Colonial Government has devoted much attention to this subject. Within a few years, D. J. Forbes Winslow, reporter on the Products of India, published by authority a valuable treatise on the subject. In this treatise he says that the fibre of the ramie is stronger than that of hemp or jute; that it will make the best kind of cordage; that it may be mixed with silk or wool; and that it is pre-eminent among fibres for lustre. Large as is the consumption of flax, he says that the ramie fibre would supply it if it could be produced cheaply.

The *Albany Evening Journal*, in 1880, they are now purchasing ramie whenever they can get it. Mr. Leger, civil engineer, says that "it is destined to play a great role in textile industries." Mr. Potter, the American Consul in Orifield, Germany, reported to the United States Government, in 1880, that the Ramie fibre was being used as a substitute for wool; that it is made up into cloth, blankets, flannels, hosiery, and that the manufacturers of Germany, France and Belgium are preparing to introduce it into textile manufactures. Only its high cost prevents its general introduction.

In China and India, the plant is cut down and split with knives. The bark is then pulled off, and a part of the inside covering removed. The interior part is then taken out and soaked in water, and then dried, and again soaked in water and dried. The object is to remove the gummy substance which covers the fibre. This method of dressing by hand is slow and expensive. In order to bring the fibre into general use, it must be treated by mechanical process, ramie stands today, which cotton stood before Whitney invented the "gin."

The Indian Government took a deep interest in the matter, and, in 1870, offered a prize of \$25,000 for a machine which would produce the fibre suitably, and at a cost of \$75 per ton of fibre, so long as the price of it stood at \$250 per ton. Several trials were made with different machines, but the prize was not awarded to any one. The great difficulty in the way was that English inventors would not go out to India, owing to the great expense of doing so, nor could experiments be made in England, because the fresh ramie plant could not be obtained there. The inventors constructed their machines without material to experiment with. The ramie plant grows luxuriantly in these islands. In no country will it grow with greater rapidity. Four crops a year can be taken off. The plant springs up from its roots. It will grow where sugar cane can not be cultivated. Instances are known here, where the plant has grown one foot per week. It is especially a crop which can be cultivated by small farmers and persons without capital.

The amount of fibre of marketable value obtainable from an acre varies from 1000 to 2000 lbs. One hundred pounds of fibre plant produces about five pounds of fibre, which is worth from \$150 to \$250 per ton. If the cost of preparing the fibre is not over \$75 per ton, there will be a profit of from \$75 to \$175 per ton, or from \$30 to \$80 per acre. The continental market would take all that could be produced here, even if the product reached 30,000 tons per annum. An industry producing that amount of material would rival in value the sugar market.

In 1878, Mr. C. C. Coleman of this city, exhibited at the Mechanics' Fair, in San Francisco, a machine invented by him for the treatment of Ramie fibre. Ramie grown in California was passed into the machine and the product, which was sent to England, was favorably reported upon and orders given for quantities. But the machine, as is usual with all newly invented machines, was imperfect. The principle on which it operated was this, that the fibre after passing through rollers was subjected to steam heat, which took out a part of the gummy substance. It immediately passed through another set of rollers which crushed it still more, and through another steam bath, which extracted more of the gummy matter. After passing through several pairs of rollers, and through steam baths, it finally reached the drying rollers and was in a marketable condition. The work is entirely automatic or mechanical. In using the steam bath, there is a decided improvement over any of the processes now known. That Mr. Coleman has succeeded in inventing the right machine is still a debatable matter. There are reasons to believe that he has. Only, however, by repeated trials can this be demonstrated. There are certain advantages here in the fact that the inventors, the machine and the ramie are in one place. It will enable the inventor to improve his machine by actual experiments. If he succeeds, he will have created a great industry for the Kingdom. In view of the importance of the subject, the Minister of the Interior is desirous of bringing the matter before the legislature, and recommending an appropriation for making trials of the machine. A few thousand dollars spent judiciously in this way, might be of more advantage to the

country than the expenditure of large sums on a military establishment. It is not the duty or place of government to experiment in machines, unless a great object, one of national importance, is in view. The great success of the sugar beet industry in France was due to the deep interest taken in it by Napoleon I. It was a source of wealth created by the government. While the mercantile and the laboring interests run to sugar cane cultivation, it might be well for the government to look up some industry which will remove the danger of casting all the capital of the nation in one industry.

## Camping on Mauna Kea.

Hilo, April 6th, 1882.

The adventurous experience referred to in a former letter was insufficient to deter me from another sojourn in the frigid altitudes of Mauna Kea. The party which left Hilo for a season of bear, bull, goat and bird hunting consisted of Howard Hitchcock, Fred, Lyman and John Austin, with two natives and a pack train. As the party proceeded upward, a thunder-storm was raging between the two mountains, which flashed lightning shafts at each other with thundering crashes. Admiration was supplemented by surprise at beholding the unclouded sun beaming with noon-day heat while rain descended in a drenching storm. The firmament lights and shades were most intense and varied. On either hand, a forest of sapling kane was succeeding well in the struggle for existence against ice, water, lemon, and other vines and ferns innumerable, wreathed in fairy drapery. Amid such loveliness, contest other than that in progress in the heavens seemed difficult to credit, and yet, strange things of beauty may lead to perpetual joy, this like the rose, had its enchanting drawback. We were not simply getting wet, but being poisoned. Chief among life's abominations are rubber coats and leggings. Camp Hale Lanuina, some 1500 feet altitude, was reached toward evening, when rain and clouds dispersed. Wood was gathered for a fire, ferns for beds, and a trip made to a pretty cascade rapid near by, where a cursory ablution was performed preparatory to the evening meal, which was relished just as much as if our table had been reserved instead of a crack in the fibre of an empty old tin, our cups choice ceramic specimens instead of salvaged tin cans, and our cloth linen instead of a copy of the Press. The evening was passed around a bright camp fire, and beneath the merry sentinal stars, sleeping with one eye shut, and trembling with cold. An early start and long ride over the lava flow of 1850 was made the following day, the romantically situated camps of Hale Lanuina and Hale Aloha being visited on the way. Kipuka Ahina was reached before sunset. This, as part of its name indicates, is an opening in the woods. It is about a mile long, a quarter mile wide, 5,000 feet high, and enclosed by a forest of dead kane, which, like the grass, sometimes is gray, a delightful roasting ground. The fire, like the kane, is on the ground, while the gable roof has been brought to a satiny polish by smoke rising in grateful incense from consuming sandal wood, or aaka, above which, suspended from poles thrown upon smoking, is meat in process of drying or smoking. About the house play young pigs stolen from their parents in the woods. There are, also, dogs, cats, chickens, kids and other important pets which sometimes fight with us for sleeping room. No pun is intended in saying we lived high up there. Quail on toast, duck, plover, chicken, tenderloin, pork chops, plum pudding, etc., were upon the bill of fare. Daily excursions were made from camp in quest of game. On one of these, I killed my first bear, and on the following day my first bull, interesting operations. The pig had been caught by dogs, who would let him go when I approached. Getting them on one side, I approached on the other, whence the iron entered his soul, as it were, and he died. Killing the bull was even a riskier job. He had been fatally wounded by Mr. Lyman, but proved game to the end. He rushed upon two natives and myself, who hurriedly shinned up a young tree, where, had he but known it, we were at his mercy, our refuge being a mere sapling rooted in the upturned and rotting root of an old kane, overturned by a storm, and which would have been easily undermined as we each hugged a slender limb of riden kane, I approached on 60 degrees; his horn almost touched our feet as he rushed frantically around or stood gazing upward with murder in his eye. Another bull lay moaning a few feet beyond. When he was paying closest attention dropped from exhaustion. I slipped down and crawling up behind him, thrust my knife to his heart, handle and all. Fortunately, his subsequent demonstrations were comparatively mild, unlike a cow which Mr. D. H. Hitchcock attempted to milk, whereupon he growled and gave chase. But for the timely bullet of his son, who is a good marksman, the father would be drinking milk and honey in another land. Messrs. Lyman and Austin left camp on the 27th ultimo in heavy rain and fog. They and their animals reached Hilo more dead than alive. Mr. Austin was thrown into the Waikuku, in crossing it, and his horse fell on him. Both were severely injured. The male will perhaps never recover. An ascent to the mountain top was made with two native guides, and some silver sword was gathered after an exhausting search. Though bright when starting, clouds rolled in and obscured the view of all beneath them. The scene from above, though not all that was desired, proved ample compensation for the trouble, to say nothing about a personal hand to mouth, or touch, encounter with a bear. On Friday, March 17th, a slight earthquake shock was felt just as we approached a prelate bull shot by Mr. Howard Hitchcock. Another severe shock woke us at 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning, the 23rd ult.

A large quantity of sugar is on hand at Opaopa plantation, and grinding has been suspended till room be made for more by shipping. Some meal is found of great service here, a natural line of demarcation being drawn between one fertilized and that not so. In the former, the plant is heavy and of healthy color, while the latter is weak, puny and in some spots worthless. The method of laying the meal is quite ingenious and effective. It is thrown into a hopper rigged with handles like a plow, and drawn by a mule, the meal being sprinkled through a pipe inserted in the bottom, and protected by a cultivator line, which clears the way in a furrow. The Messrs. Hitchcock are going to make an improvement on this by using two hoppers with three pipes, and pieces of rubber hose which shall trail in three furrows at one time, the hoppers being placed upon a mule's back.

## One Too Many.

By JOSEPHINE POLKARD.

Which we are in our sporting ways.  
And full of fun and frolic play.  
Wherever we go, wherever we play.  
Together we were jolly.

The merry, laughter-loving crew.  
That circled me and Jennie.  
Such pleasures brought, we never thought  
That there was one too many.

Our tastes were mutual, and we shared  
Our friendships; and we plighted  
The hearts that we declared should be  
Forever thus united.

Not soon—I cannot tell just how  
There came a change or Jennie.  
Another joined our walks and talks,  
And there was one too many.

Oh, hearts have often heaped the rule  
But seldom taught in college.  
That "there's a crowd"—yet not about  
Its truth dire we acknowledge.

The lack of freedom in our speech.  
The blunders of poor Jennie.  
Failed to convince one dull to hints  
That there was one too many.

And so the summer days sped on.  
And when we were together,  
Though fond and true, we were not  
Theed to change our weather.

And when a certain friend I caught  
With arm around her Jennie's neck,  
I soon found out there was no doubt  
I was the one too many.

## Our Musical Monthly.

NOTE.—It frequently happens that musical societies do something that is not quite clear to the general mind. In the present case, to try and answer all questions sent to us relating to music, should be sent in not later than the 20th of each month, accompanied by the full names of the writers.

Were it not for music, we might in these days say the beautiful is dead.

Alfred Jaell, a noted pianist is dead.

Comparatively few of Longfellow's poems, have been set to music, and those have been mostly set by English composers.

Henry Kettner the pianist, who stayed here a few years ago, is now in Paris.

John Zundel, the eminent organist, is said to be dying in Germany.

Arthur Sullivan is going from Egypt to Berlin to superintend the production of his comic opera "Love on Board."

Richard Wagner is about to depart for Greece, to compose the music of a new opera drawn from heathen mythology.

The art of playing on the violin requires the nicest perception and the most sense of any art in the known world.

Besides being the greatest singer in the world, Adeline Patti is unquestionably the greatest actress.

"Independence" is to be the title of Gilbert and Sullivan's new opera.

Theodore Kullak, an eminent musician, died recently in Berlin, aged sixty-four.

About a month ago, our neighbor the *Gazette* published a long paragraph on the "death of Liszt, the great pianist." This was a sad mistake as the great musician has recovered his health, and returned to Baden-Pesth.

The *Boston Leader*, a paper devoted to band music, says in its April number: "The Royal Hawaiian Band at Hanaelei, Kauai, is very popular and gives frequent public concerts to large audiences."

## Late Publications.

"Spanish Vistas," profusely illustrated, the opening piece of the April number of *Harpers Magazine*, is a charming account of rambles in that ever interesting country, Spain, by "In days gone by," is a true romance of a noted courtier in Maryland in the last century. The usual contributions on art subjects are continued in "Athena Parthenon," a description of the remnant of a noted statue recently exhumed at Athens. "The History of Wood Engraving" with reprints of many curious old cuts, and "A trial balance of decoration." "What we owe to the trees," is a valuable article on the necessity of taking care of forests, and the best manner of doing it.

The mining regions and mountain scenery of Colorado is graphically described and beautifully illustrated in "Silver" San Juan. The family and home life of the British Premier is described in "Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden." Several short stories in addition to the serial "Annie," complete the number.

The contents of the *Century Magazine* for April are not excelled by any previous number. "Tunis and its Bay" takes the reader into a little known land and introduces a strange people. The "Opera in New York" is continued from the March number, and the art series is continued by "The Age of Praxiteles" and "Some American Tiles." There is an interesting sketch of Matthew Arnold and a review of his works, and an article on Diarmid entitled "Was the Earl of Beaconsfield a representative Jew?" "Oddities of Southern Life" is well illustrated in pen pictures grouped under the above heading. "Russian Jews and Gentiles," and many other contributions will be found of interest.

The *Atlantic Monthly* for April is a little library of useful knowledge in itself. "Europe before the arrival of man" is a careful study of the early geological era of that continent. Under the heading "A Modern Hindu Reformer" is given a short narrative of the life and work of Keshub Chunder Sen, founder of the Brahmo Samaj, a new theological school in India which bids fair to revolutionize religion and society in that benighted country. "A realistic poet," Arthur J. Munby, is an introduction to the public of a comparatively unknown writer of verse. "Progress in Agriculture by Education and Government Aid" is an able discussion of a very important question. "The Folk Lore of Lower Canada" will be found interesting and amusing, and "Shakespearean Operas" an entertaining review of the works of the great master. The short stories are "In Venice," "Jacob's Insurance," and "Doctor Zay."

"Yachting in San Francisco Bay," the first article in the April *California*, is illustrated with original engravings, which are an improvement on those of previous numbers. Joseph La Conte contributes an excellent paper on the "Higher Utilities Science." "A Notable Escape" by James O'Meara, "Our Cheap Greenhouse" by Lucy Underwood McCann, "The London Newspaper," "California Aprils," "An International Treaty," and "Poor Ah Toy," are all interesting. "A visit to a King" by W. F. Bray, is a pleasing account of a visit to a native African potentate on the Guinea Coast. Joaquin Miller contributes a song "45," and Saddle B. Anderson a sonnet "Watching the Ships." "Tale number of the *California* is an excellent one; in fact it appears to be improving with each issue.

Lipincott's *Magazine* has a very good table of contents and may be read from cover to cover with interest. "In and about a Normandy Market Place" and "Four-footed Price-Fighters" are illustrated. "Our Substitute for a Navy," "In a Florida

Cracker's Cabin," "The Assistant Editor," "Captain William Kidd," "New Years with the Ojibways," "Among the Wedgwoods," by Wirt Sikes, and "A Bohemian," with the serials, poems and well filled departments make a varied and desirable collection of instructive and well-written articles.

## Humorous Paragraphs.

Candy pulls are in fashion again, but they are now called "glucose tensions."—*Philadelphia News.*

When a base-ball man gets a goose egg, it is laid to the fowl or by them?—*Boston Commercial Bulletin.*

Why is a doctor better taken care of than his patients? Because when he goes to bed somebody is sure to rap him up.

A California silk worm has spun a yarn nine miles long. Sea captains might as well hang up.—*Detroit Free Press.*

A London paper says that short honey-moons are the fashion now. It is presumed the honeymoon ends when the last quarter is spent.

Many a young fellow is prematurely spoiled by the reputation of being quick-witted, and consequently is quick quitted also.

Teacher—"How does the earth absorb water?" Pupil—"Like a dog." Teacher—"How do you make that out?" Pupil—"Der wet weend of the lap of the earth?" Teacher—"Go up another grade."

A French surgeon has mortally offended the dancing world of Paris by going to a recent meeting on the field of honor with nothing but a piece of court plaster in his vest pocket.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

New style of Western joke: Suppose there was a man named Fealar, and he had a dog. When they were together they could not lie down because they would have to remain purp-and-lealar.

"I am a fighter from Bitter Creek; I'm a wolf, and this is my night to howl. I've three rows of front teeth and narry tooth alike. The folks on Bitter Creek are bad; the higher you go up the wass they are, and I'm from the head waters."—*Waterbury's Oddities of Southern Life.*

"Coming events, etc." North country magnate to tenant farmer: "Well, Mr. Cluff, so we're going to have an election. How do you hum—what do you think about it?" Dame, man, wally: "Think about it, sir? Wally, I think I shall be shakin' hands with some great folks verry shortly."—*London Punch.*

Mrs. Smith (emphatically): "Four Mrs. Sirent (she says she has been ordered to warm-diddle-diddle. Do you think she will go?" Mrs. Brown (grimly): "No; not while she lives."

A bald-headed professor, reproving a youth for the exercise of his fists, said: "We fight with our heads at this college." The youth reflected a moment and then replied: "Ah, I see, and you have butted all your hair off."

In a Texas breach of promise suit, the counsel decided not to have the letters read, and the Court ruled that they need not be introduced. But the most popular man in town rose up and said that the crowd had come there to read the letters, and that they wouldn't readily put up with no imposition in the way of a disappointment. The letters were read.

An Indian Chief, while in Washington, was taken to see a burlesque show. After the performance he remarked, through an interpreter, that the great father was very kind to send the poor Indians blankets when they were so much needed at home.

A Philadelphia boy was taken to a symphony concert recently and on returning he had guessed those fiddlers must like their teacher, for although he was always threatening to rap them over the knuckles with his black ruler, he did not hit them once.

Fiton was in great force. I got him to refresh my memory with his story of a Dublin Professor who said to his class: "Gentlemen, Hon. Mr. Boyle was a great man; he was the father of chemistry and uncle to the Earl of Cork." From which, says Fiton, his pupils worked out the conclusion that chemistry and the Earl of Cork were first cousins.—*Letter of Sir Charles Lyell.*

It was evening. Three of them were killing a cat. One of them held a lantern, another held the cat, and the third jammed a pistol into the cat's ear and fired, shooting the man in the hand who held the cat, and the one with the lantern was wounded in the arm. The cat fell when it saw how matters stood and that ill-feeling was being engendered.—*Harvard Daily Herald.*

A young lady who graduated from a high school last July is teaching school up in New Hampshire. A bashful young fellow, a student of the school the other day, was asked by the teacher to say a few words to the pupils. This was his speech: "Scholars, I hope you will always love your school and your teacher as much as I do." Tableau—giggling boys and girls and a blushing schoolma'am.

The Fabian policy: A bear, wishing to rob a bee hive, laid himself down in front of it and overturned it with his paw. "Now," said he, "I will lie perfectly still and let the bees sting me until they are exhausted and powerless; their honey may then be obtained without opposition." And it was so obtained, but by a fresh bear, the other being dead.—*Detroit Free Press.*

Two ladies recently presented themselves at the door of a fancy ball, and being asked what characters they personated, they replied that they were without any special costume, whereupon the stupid fellow bawled out, "Two ladies without any character."

In a Western town recently the "star" who shoots an apple of a man's head missed his cue and killed the apple-holder. The audience was so delighted that it demanded an encore, and the manager came forward and said that owing to the prodigious expense of shipping a corpse East they would be obliged to reluctantly forego a repetition.

They tell of a man out West who was putting a blast in a well, and it went off prematurely and blew him out into an apple tree about fifty feet away. In a moment he recovered himself, and remarking, "The Lord knows better than I do after all; I guess it is almost time to go pruning," took a large pruning knife from his pocket and set to work.

By the new census, there are in Ireland 3,951,696 Roman Catholics, and 1,358,443 Protestants of all kinds.

The real and personal property in the United States is valued at \$70,000,000,000.

## FOREIGN NEWS.

From California exchanges received by the *Zealandia* on Tuesday last, we recall the following items of foreign news:

President Arthur vetoed the Chinese bill, giving his reasons for not signing it at length. His principal objection was the long term of twenty years which the bill was to be in force, and he called attention to minor faults that had not been provided for. His veto is generally approved in the East, but on the Pacific Coast, where the Chinese are, it is severely condemned by all classes and parties. When the news was received, flags were placed at half-mast, and the bands played the "Dead March in Sulk," and in some places the people went so far as to hang the President in effigy. There was no disturbance of any kind, but the people are much discouraged.

On the 6th instant, after a failure to pass the bill over Arthur's veto, three Chinese bills were introduced in the House, the first by Page, for a suspension of ten years; another by Berry, for a suspension of sixteen years, and a third by Willis, for fifteen years. The measures introduced by Page and Berry are otherwise identical with the vetoed bill. The bill of Willis is a copy of the bill introduced by him while the subject was before the House Committee on Education and Labor, which provides for a system of registration and passports somewhat different from the machinery of the bill finally agreed upon. Senator Miller has had a talk with President Arthur, and says he now knows that a ten-year bill will be promptly approved.

The Chinamen of New York contemplate holding a mass meeting to celebrate the President's veto of the Chinese bill at an early day.

The President has nominated Henry U. Teller, of Colorado, to be Secretary of the Interior, William E. Chandler, of New Hampshire, to be Secretary of the Navy, William H. Hunt, of Louisiana, to be Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia.

The Denver Board of Education has named the elegant new school building now being erected the Longfellow, in honor of the dead poet.

General Sherman's dispatch asking that no exception be made in his favor to the compulsory retirement clause of the Army bill, should make the passage of the clause a certainty, although an attempt will be made to strike out the compulsory retirement after 40 years' service, which, it happens, only strikes General Page.

Considerable excitement prevails at Fort Leavenworth over a rumor that the Cheyennes and Arapahoes are threatening an outbreak near Fort Reno. Major Randall, with five companies, and Captain Hood, with three companies of troops, are on the ground.

The Indians number 2,000. Their grievances are that they have been put on half rations of beef, and that the proposed branch of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad through the Territory will destroy their hunting-grounds. Major Randall thinks his troops inadequate to prevent a general sweep.

The floods in the Southern States continue, but are abating. Steamboats are now sailing over wagon-roads. All the bottom lands extending on the Mississippi side as far as Fladom are under water.

A correspondent of the *Times Democrat*, writing from Musson, Louisiana, says: "The protectionist contest is over, and the beautiful Foodie, Mangern and Gracette country is desolated by a vast sheet of water pouring over it from four crevasses. Two hundred square miles of land, occupied by 4,000 people, is covered with water. Only three plantations escape. The woods are full of stock, wading and swimming in search of food, and already they are beginning to die. There is no suffering yet among the people, but fish and wild game are getting scarce, and there soon must be a call for help."

Two large British steamships, loaded with Chinese passengers, have sailed from Hong Kong for Victoria, British Columbia. About 4,000 more Chinamen are coming this season, all of whom are wanted on railway work. Labor of all kinds continues high, and is steadily advancing. Men are scarce, and workshops are declining orders.

Secretary Hunt has received a cable message from Lieutenant Harber at Irkutsk, stating that the owner of the steamer *Lena* wants a large price for the vessel from June 27th to September 17th, with a guarantee against loss. Harber is negotiating for another steamer, and says: "If I do not take the steamer, I will start an expedition to search the coast from the mouth of the Lena to the delta, and from Cleak to the delta. When the delta is found, officers will search thoroughly with boats, having a provision depot near St. Berg Rock. No news from Melville. Will take provisions for his party, and continue search. A steamer is important for thorough work."

Secretary Hunt sent a message to Harber at Irkutsk to charter another steamer on the best terms he could make.

Secretary Hunt has received a cable message from Lieutenant Harber, at Irkutsk, as follows:

Subject to your approval and my inspection, I have offered 10,000 roubles for a paddle steamer for the entire summer, with a guarantee, if lost, of 4,000 paper roubles. If the owner accepts, my close; if not, how much may I offer and guarantee? The season is advanced and haste is necessary.

Another dispatch of April 10th says: Secretary Hunt has received a dispatch from Engineer Melville, dated Yakutsk, January 27th, as follows: "I have completed all necessary arrangements for supplies and outfit for six months, and leave this place for Balan to-day; thence to the Lena delta to continue the search for my missing comrades."

Farnell was released from prison April 10th, and at once started for England.

At the Petty Sessions at Gort County Galway, a priest named O'Higgins was committed for trial upon a charge of inciting to murder. He was escorted to jail by a detachment of cavalry.

A Washington special to the *Commercial Advertiser* says: "The Secretary of State is in receipt of a cable despatch from Minister Lowell to the effect that the British Government has released unconditionally three of the imprisoned Americans."

An extra police force has been placed in the Town Hall, at Manchester, England, because of anonymous Russian threats to blow it up during the Easter holidays.

## An Austrian Polar expedition left Pola.

Myria, on the 23d of April.

It is stated that the Crinoanauan insurgents, after a fierce engagement, have captured some positions from the Austrians.

The *Will of the People* declares that the Reactionary Holy League in Russia, has decided to use assassination in combating the nihilists.

The editor of the *World* has been notified by Treacott that General Harbut, late United States Minister to Peru, died suddenly of "senescence of the heart" March 28th, at Lima.

Ex-Dictator Pierola has left Peru, and Peru is now united.

Advices from Buenos Ayres to March 8th say the Peruvians lost 2,000 men in an engagement in Ayacucho. The Peruvian commanders were taken prisoners, and are expected to be shot.

Panama advises say that Treacott, in the correspondence published in Chile, withdraws any offer of the good offices of the United States in the conclusion of peace between Peru and Chile.

Lord Granville has succeeded in inducing the Powers not to permit exclusive Turkish intervention in Egypt. If anarchy arises, England and France may do more than Turkey. An Indian contingent is expected on the line of the canal. Cairo must be seized on account of the water supply. Private letters indicate that Arby Bey's influence is waning, and he must soon sink or do something desperate. The Powers are fully prepared for all contingencies.

Some of the Uses of Paper.

Paper car wheels are composed entirely of paper rings pressed together under a weight of six tons, and then fastened by means of bolts and steel tire put on them, when they are ready for use. Last week, the rings stuck as high as the shoulders of an ordinary man. Under treatment they sink to the thickness required; if the tire should wear or fall off the wheel, or the train run from the track, there would be no danger of their breaking, as they are very flexible, and would spring. A paper ball can be rendered so solid that nothing but a diamond tool can cause an indentation into it. At the mill is a square block of compressed paper fastened on a turning lathe, and so hard that, if a fine steel chisel is held against it when it is moving instead of cutting the paper, it will break the chisel into a hundred pieces. The strength is astonishing. You can take a five-pound note of the Bank of England, twist it into a kind of rope, suspend 320 pounds upon one end of it and not injure it in the slightest degree. Bath tubs and pots are formed by compressing the paper made out of linen fibers and annealed—that is, painted over with a composition which becomes a part thereof and is fire-proof. The tubs last indefinitely, never leak, and put into the fire, will not burn up. You can beat on them with a hammer and not injure them. Plates compressed and annealed are very durable; you can not only wash them, but drop them upon the floor and stand upon them. The fork can be used for any practical purpose, and the knife can always be kept sharp. Paper can be substituted for wood, converted into picture frames and colored like wax, cherry and the like. Bedsteads are fashioned the same as car-wheels, only of long strips instead of rings. There are very beautiful and lasting. Cooking or heating stoves are also annealed, and it is impossible to burn them out; they are less costly than iron. A house can be literally constructed of, and furnished with every convenience, in paper. The printing-press, type and all the fixtures of the office could be concocted of this material, and more cheaply than of the ordinary kind. A complete steam engine can be thus manufactured and do all required duty. Clothes and shoes will come in the future. Twenty-nine hours are needed to transform linen fibre into a car-wheel.

Solid card-like paper was made as early as the fifth century, but it is stated on the authority of the Arabian historians, and largely conceded, that linen paper did not come into use until 1270, or, at most, but a short time before.